



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

DOUGHERTY CLEMENTS  
1901 ROXBOROUGH ROAD  
SUITE 300  
CHARLOTTE NC 28211

**COPY MAILED**

JAN 23 2006

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Tom Q. Willbaum et al. :  
Application No. 09/427,300 :  
Filed: October 26, 1999 :  
Attorney Docket No. 296 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition filed January 13, 2006 under 37 CFR 1.137(b),<sup>1</sup> to revive the above-identified application.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.137 (b) is **GRANTED**.

This application became abandoned December 27, 2005 for failure to timely pay the issue fee on or before December 23, 2005. The instant petition and this decision precede the mailing of the Notice of Abandonment.

The issue fee and petition fee have been applied. All other requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) having now been met, this application file is being forwarded to the Publishing Division to be processed into a patent.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned Petitions Attorney at (571) 272-3212.

*Patricia Faison-Ball*  
Patricia Faison-Ball  
Senior Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions

<sup>1</sup>Effective December 1, 1997, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) now provide that where the delay in reply was unintentional, a petition may be filed to revive an abandoned application or a lapsed patent pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b). A grantable petition filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by:

(1) the required reply, unless previously filed. In a nonprovisional application abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may be met by the filing of a continuing application. In a nonprovisional application filed on or after June 8, 1995, and abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may also be met by the filing of a request for continued examination in compliance with § 1.114. In an application or patent, abandoned or lapsed for failure to pay the issue fee or any portion thereof, the required reply must be the payment of the issue fee or any outstanding balance thereof.

(2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m);

(3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional; and

(4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(c).